

1 Claims:

2 Please cancel claims 1-19 and 30-35 (without prejudice), such that claims 20-  
3 29 are remaining; please and add new claim 36. The current status of the claims is  
4 as follows:

5 Claims 1-19 (cancelled)

6  
7 Claim 20 (original): A method of fabricating a subterranean structure, comprising:  
8 excavating soil to form a downward sloping ramp;

9 forming a concrete slab on the downward sloping ramp;

10 continuing to excavate soil to extend the downward sloping ramp to a location  
11 under the concrete slab; and

12 continuing to form the concrete slab on the downward sloping ramp so that a  
13 subterranean structure is formed having an essentially continuous concrete slab with  
14 a first portion which is above and spaced-apart from a second portion.

15 Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 20, and wherein the soil is excavated using  
16 a water jetting process.

17 Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 20, and wherein the second portion of the  
18 concrete slab is generally in alignment with the first portion of the concrete slab, and  
19 the first and second portions are defined by a continuous outer perimeter and a  
20 continuous inner perimeter, the method further comprising joining the first and  
21 second portions with a wall element at one of the inner or outer perimeters.

22 Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 21, and wherein the wall element is a first  
23 wall element, the method further comprising joining the first and second portions with  
24 a second wall element at the other of the inner or outer perimeters.

25 Claim 24 (original): The method of claim 23, and wherein the inner perimeter defines  
a closed inner area of the subterranean structure, the method further comprising  
excavating soil out of the closed inner area.

1 Claim 25 (original): The method of claim 24, and further comprising placing a top  
2 over the closed inner area.

3 Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 20, and further comprising, prior to  
4 excavating, driving sheet piling to define an inner perimeter and an outer perimeter  
5 for the continuous concrete slab to thereby place the first and second portions in  
6 general vertical alignment with one another.

7 Claim 27 (original): The method of claim 26, and further comprising:

8 driving sheet piling downward from the second portion to further define the  
9 inner and out perimeters;

10 continuing to excavate soil to extend the downward sloping ramp to a location  
11 under the second portion of the concrete slab; and

12 continuing to form the concrete slab on the downward sloping ramp so that  
13 the essentially continuous concrete slab has a third portion which is below and  
14 spaced-apart from the second portion.

15 Claim 28 (original): The method of claim 20, and further comprising forming  
16 generally aligned holes in the first and second portions, and removing excavated soil  
17 by passing it upwards through the generally aligned holes.

18 Claim 29 (original): The method of claim 28, and further comprising:

19 placing a caisson liner through the generally aligned holes to define a caisson  
20 between the first and second portions of the essentially continuous concrete slab;  
21 and

22 filling the space between the first and second portions outside of the caisson  
23 with a fill material.

24 Claims 30-35 (cancelled)  
25

1 Claim 36 (new): The method of claim 20, and wherein the concrete slab defines a  
2 plurality of concrete flights defined by an inner perimeter and an outer perimeter, the  
3 method further comprising attaching wall panels to at least one of the inner perimeter  
4 or the outer perimeter of the concrete slab while forming a roof over the concrete  
5 slab.

6 (End of Amendment A)  
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